THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 25th July 1952.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, Madras, at half past ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE HON. SPEAKER.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" On a point of order, Sir. Why is the arrival of the Hon Speaker not ceremoniously announced now as it used to be done in the past? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Secretary announced it. Probably it was not heard by the hon. Member."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Sir, the hon. Member refers to the announcement that used to be made in the corridor when the Hon. Speaker was coming to the Chamber."

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Conference of Police officers of coastal Andhra districts.

* 212 Q.—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was a conference of the Police chiefs of coastal Andhra districts at Vijayavada, recently with the Inspector-General of Police and concerned Deputy Inspector-General participating ;

(b) what was the agenda of the conference ;

(c) whether this holding of conferences of Police chiefs of a group of districts is a feature only in coastal Andhra districts or is it a feature of groups of districts of other regions of the State ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the consideration of the *modus operandi* of putting down the democratic elements in Andhra public life was one of the items of the agenda ; and

(e) whether the Government will state the decisions arrived at by the conference?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (a) *to* (c) Yes, a conference was held at Eluru and not at Vijayavada. The holding of conferences of police officers of each range is an annual feature for discussing administrative and crime matters and for exchange of views. This is not peculiar to the coastal Andhra districts. The increase in crime in certain districts of the Northern Range was particularly discussed at the conference referred to in the question.

" (d) The answer is definitely in the negative. The Government do not desire to put down democracy but wish to deal with crime as defined and made punishable in the Penal Code.